

SMPTE NEWS & NOTES

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Papers Selection Process is Underway for Fall Conference

Several papers have been submitted for consideration in this year's Technical Conference and Exhibit. SMPTE's 140th installment of this event will be held at the Pasadena Convention Center from October 28-31, 1998. Chaired by Alan J. Masson, Eastman Kodak Co., and Alan A. Hart, Modern Videofilm, the conference will follow the theme "DTV Reality Check—The First Year." The program consists of an all-day seminar chaired by Mark Schubert, Technology Consultant, and ten papers sessions. Session titles are as follows: "Film Acquisition," "Transmission and Receiver Technology Reception Realities," "Electronics Acquisition," "Consumer Digital Disk and Systems," "Telecine and Digital Electronic Post," "Sound Post-Production and Transmission," "ACVL Lab," "Servers," "Electronic Cinema—Progress Report: Movies as Data," and "Test and Measurement."

An online registration form is available on the Society's web site (<http://www.smppte.org>). Additional details, including the list of submitted papers, are included in the SMPTE Reports section of this month's *Journal*.

SMPTE Scheduled to Participate in Two Segments of IBC98 in September

If you're planning to be in the Amsterdam area next month, be sure to attend the International Broadcast Conference (IBC98). This electronic media event is scheduled for September 11-15, 1998 at the RAI International Exhibition and Congress in Amsterdam.

IBC98 will cover the latest trends in film, video, television, and computers. Five hundred exhibitors, made up of top companies from the industry, will also present their products to conference attendees. Activities taking place over the five-day period include papers presentations, panel discussions, workshops, and a new briefings segment. SMPTE will participate in both the papers presentations and the Briefings segment of the conference.

The Society's papers session is titled "Film and Tape—From the Old to the New" and will examine the digital mastering, restoration, and retrieval of tape and film in production and broadcasting. Six papers have been confirmed for this Saturday morning session. They are: "Film Basics," *Marian Walrath*, Kodak; "Digital Film Mastering," *W. Huther*, *H. Tjabben*, and *D. Bankroft*, Philips BTS; "From Film Archives to Digital Document Libraries," *C. Glasman*, *E. Nikoulsky*, *V. Lichakov*, and *A. Peregoudov*, St. Petersburg Institute of Cinema and Television; "Restoration of Archived Television Programs for Digital Broadcasting," *M. Weston*, *J. Drewery*, and *R. Prytherch*, BBC Research and Development; *J. H. Chenot*, INA, and *P. van Roosmalen*, Delft Cambridge University; "Videotape Inspection, Cleaning, and Restoration Methods for the Safe Retention and Retrieval of Television

Program Content," *Ed Zwaneveld*, National Film Board of Canada; and "Film for Digital Broadcasting, HDTV, and Digital Film Production: A Scanner that Meets All Needs," *Peter R. Swinson*, Cintel International, Ltd.

During the Briefings segment, the Society will present the work of the SMPTE/EBU Task Force who have been studying ways to help with television's conversion from analog to digital. Headed by Task Force chairman Horst Schachlbauer, IRT, the team will update delegates with their work on compression, interface standards, and film formats. The Task Force was established to enable and manage television's change from a medium based on the synchronized scanning of images and displays to one based on the exchange of program material as bit streams, and to make the necessary decisions to facilitate the new direction.

For more information contact the IBC office, Savoy Place, London, WC2R 0BL, U.K., tel: +44 171 240 3724, e-mail: show@ibc.org.uk, or visit the conference web site at <http://www.ibc.org.uk/ibc/>.

New Plans Added to SMPTE's Group Insurance Program

Four new plans have been added to the SMPTE Group Insurance Program managed through Seabury & Smith.

The Catastrophe Major Medical Plan is designed as a supplement to basic medical insurance plans. It offers up to \$2 million of protection against the expense of a catastrophic accident or illness.

The Member Assistance Plan provides members and their families with supplemental income in the event of a hospital stay. Benefits are paid for each day of hospitalization and may be used to help pay for expenses not covered by most health care plans. Worldwide travel and medical assistance coverage is also included.

The Cancer Expense Insurance Plan helps protect you and your family from the high cost of cancer treatment. Benefits are paid to participants and can be used as desired, regardless of any other insurance coverage.

The Dental Insurance Plan gives members access to a network of certified dentists and specialists. Annual exams and x-rays are free and other services are provided at discount rates.

Interested parties should contact Seabury & Smith by writing to Administrator Group Insurance Program, 1255 23rd St., Ste. 300, Washington, DC 20077-6916, or call (800) 424-9883.

— Jermaine Hall

SAVE THESE DATES!

October 28 to 31, 1998: 140th SMPTE Technical Conference and Exhibit, Pasadena Convention Center, Pasadena, CA

February 25 to 27, 1999: 33rd SMPTE Advanced Motion Imaging Conference, Orlando, FL

July 13 to 16, 1999: SMPTE '99, Sydney, Australia

This information is available at the SMPTE Web Site: <http://www.smppte.org>.

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